

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 AID-05 SAA-01 EB-08 COME-00  
HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /121 W  
-----019944 300737Z /13

P R 300520Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9297  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KABUL 6126

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, AF  
SUBJ: CHAIRMAN TARAHI DELIVERS A "STATE OF THE REVOLUTION"  
ADDRESS

1. SUMMARY. ON THE EVENING OF JULY 24, REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAHI DELIVERED A LENGTHY RADIO-TV ADDRESS TO THE NATION REGARDING THE STATUS OF HIS REVOLUTIONARY REGIME AND ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE. MOST OF HIS REMARKS BROKE NO NEW GROUND, ALTHOUGH A FEW POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INNOVATIONS WERE INCLUDED, SUCH AS HIS PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AFGHANISTAN'S "FRATERNAL" RELATIONSHIP WITH THE "SOCIALIST CAMP." THE SPEECH APPEARED TO BE DESIGNED TO REASSURE THE PEOPLE THAT ALL WAS WELL AND THAT THE REGIME'S PLANS WERE PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN. GIVEN THE CURRENT JITTERS PREVAILING IN THIS COUNTRY, AMNY AFGHANS MAY NOT HAVE TAKEN TARAHI'S SOOTHING  
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WORDS AT FACE VALUE. (TEXT OF THE SPEECH WILL BE POUCHED TO THE DEPARTMENT.) END OF SUMMARY.

2. TARAHI OPENED HIS ADDRESS WITH A LONG PROTRACTED PAT ON THE BACK FOR HIS PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF AFGHANISTAN (PDPA) FOR ITS ROLE IN THE OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MOHAMMAD DAOUD. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE APRIL REVOLUTION WAS THE RESULT

OF YEARS OF POLITICAL PFIZATIONAL EFFORTS, AND WAS NOT MERELY A SPONTANEOUS MILITARY COUP D'ETAT. ACCORDING TO TARAKI, TGITARY WERE MERELY CARRYING OUT THE PARTY'S ORDERS TO ENSURE THAT "NO MATTER WHO TOPPLED THE DAOUD REGIME", POLITICAL POWER SHOULD FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE PDPA, "THE INEVITABLE SUCCESSOR" TO DAOUD.

3. TURNING TO FOREIGN POLICY, TARAKI, AS USUAL, GAVE TOP-BILLING TO THE USSR FOR ITS QUICK RECOGNITION OF THE NEW REGIME, AND FOR ITS FULL SUPPORT OF THE REVOLUTION. IN THIS CONNECTION, TARAKI STATED THAT "THE REVOLUTION CREATED MANY REPERCUSSIONS IN THE WORLD, INTENSIFYING THE CLASS STRUGGLE ON A GLOBAL SCALE." THE REVOLUTION ALSO PROMPTED THE BIRTH OF "REACTIONARY AND IMPERIALIST" PLOTS, HE ADDED, BUT THESE HAVE COME TO NAUGHT. AFGHANISTAN'S "FRATERNAL AND FRIENDLY TIES WITH THE SOCIALIST CAMP" ARE EXPANDING "REMARKABLY", TARAKI CONTINUED, AND "GOOD RELATIONS" WITH CAPITALIST COUNTRIES ARE ALSO BEING MAINTAINED; RELATIONS WITH THE NONALIGNED COUNTRIES WERE PLACED THIRD IN TARAKI'S LISTING. TARAKI FOLLOWED WITH A STANDARD EXPLANATION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN'S (DRA) POLICY ON NONALIGNMENT, AS WELL AS ITS RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN, IRAN, THE PRC, IRAQ, LIBYA, INDIA, THE GDR, AND, FINALLY, THE UNITED STATES. TARAKI ASSERTED THAT RECENT CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN AFGHAN OFFICIALS AND UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAUNDERS "PREPARED THE GROUND FOR GOOD UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

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THE TWO NATIONS." COUPLED WITH HIS PLAUDITS FOR EAST GERMANY, HOWEVER, TARAKI MADE AN INTERESTING REFERENCE TO AN "EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES" BETWEEN HIMSELF AND "LEADERS OF BROTHER SOCIALIST NATIONS", AN EXCHANGE WHICH HAS ADDRESSED THE EXPANSION OF THE "CORDIAL TIES AMONG OUR PEOPLES".

4. THE BULK OF TARAKI'S SPEECH DEALT WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OSJML THREE MONTH OLD REGIME. MOST OF WHAT TARAKI SAID RAQBQDING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE REGIME HAS BEEN HEARD BEFORE, ALTHOUGH A FEW OF HIS COMMENTS IN THESE FIELDS ARE NOTEWORTHY:

A) TARAKI MENTIONED A NUMBER OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROJCTS, CITING AS ASSISTANCE DONORS SEVERAL UN AGENCIES, THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND JAPAN. INTERESTINGLY, ALTHOUGH HE MENTIONED SEVERAL SOVIET-FINANCED PROJECTS, HE DID NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE SOVIET UNION WAS AN ASSISTANCE DONOR (SOVIET ASSISTANCE IS IN THE FORM OF SOFT LOANS, NOT GRANTS LIKE ALL OF OUR USAID ASSISTANCE).

B) TARAKI SAID THE NUMBER OF AFGHANS SENT ABROAD FOR HIGHER EDUCATION WILL BE INCREASED TO MORE THAN 2,000 STUDENTS NEXT

YEAR. HE DID NOT STATE WHERE THE STUDENTS WILL STUDY, BUT THE MAJORITY WILL PROBABLY TO SENT TO THE USSR OR EASTERN EUROPE.

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ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 AID-05 SAA-01 EB-08 COME-00  
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C) TARA K I MENTIONED THAT T E WHEAT PURCHASED FROM THE US (UNDER A PL-480 AGREEMENT) HAS ARRIVED IN AFGHANISTAN, ALTHOUGH THIS WAS HIS ONLY REFERENCE TO THE U.S. IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT AFGHANISTAN HAS BOUGHT WHEAT FROM INDIA, AND WHEAT, RICE, VEGETABLE OIL, AND CEMENT FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

D) TARA K I SAID THAT A NEW COMMERCIAL LAW HAD BEEN DRAFTED TO REPLACE FORMER LAWS (WE WILL POUCH A COPY AS SOON AS WE FIND ONE).

E) TARA K I CLAIMED THA A NUMBER OF FOREIGN TRADING COMPANIES "OPERATING AGAINST LOCAL TRADE REGULATIONS" HAD BEEN CLOSED AND THEIR ACTIVITIES TERMINATED. HE DID NOTCITE SPECIFIC COMPANIES, BUT AMONG THE FOREIGN COMPANIES ORDERED TO CLOSE IS INDAMER AFGHAN INDUSTRIES, AN AMERICAN-OWNED COMPANY.

F) TARA K I PRAISED DECREE NUMBER 6, CANCELLING THE DEBTS OF  
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FARMERS, AND SAID THAT STUDIES AND ASSESSMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH LAND REFORM CONTINUE.

5. AS FOR THE MILITARY, TARAHI ASSERTED THAT THE "LEADERSHIP" OF THE PDPA HAS BEEN COMPLETELY ENSURED THROUGHOUT AFGHANISTAN'S ARMED FORCES", AND THAT "ALL COMMANDERS OF LARGE AND SMALL UNITS" OF THE MILITARY ARE MEMBERS OF KHALQ OR SERIOUS SUPPORTERS THEREOF. (TARAHI FREQUENTLY USES THE SHORTER TERM "KHALQ" ("PEOPLE'S") TO IDENTIFY THE PDPA -- IT BEING THE KEY WORD OF THE LONGER NAME). TARAHI CLAIMED THAT "INDIVIDUAL AND SOCIAL" SECURITY PREVAILS THROUGH -  
OUT THE COUNTRY, AND THAT THE ARMY WAS IN "FULL CONTROL OF THE SITUATION".

6. ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS FRONT, TARAHI ASSERTED THAT ABOUT 5,500 PRISONERS HAVE BEEN RELEASED AS A RESULT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ONGOING PROGRAM TO "REVIEW" THOSE WHO WERE ARRESTED BY THE FORMER REGIME. MOREOVER, HE CLAIMED THAT MORE THAN 9,000 PENDING CASES HAVE BEEN SETTLED SINCE THE ADVENT OF HIS REGIME.

7. COMMENT: TARAHI'S REMARKS SUGGEST THAT THE CIVILIAN PARTY LEADERSHIP IS ATTEMPTING TO DOWNGRADE THE MILITARY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE APRIL REVOLUTION, AND TO AGGRANDIZE UNTO THE PDPA THE LION'S SHARE OF THE CREDIT. HOW WISE THIS POLICY IS REMAINS TO BE SEEN, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE STILL SHAKY SECURITY SITUATION IN THIS COUNTRY, TARAHI'S CONFIDENT REMARKS NOTWITHSTANDING. IN ADDITION, TARAHI'S REFERENCE TO FRATERNAL TIES WITH THE SOCIALIST CAMP HINTS WHERE THE "GREAT LEADER'S" GENUINE POLITICAL SENTIMENTS LIE. IN SUM, TARAHI'S LENGTHY PRESENTATION CONTAINED SOME NEW WRINKLES, BUT MOST OBSERVERS, INCLUDING VIRTUALLY ALL AFGHANS WITH WHOM WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE SPEECH, WERE NOT OVERLY IMPRESSED WITH TARAHI'S STOCKTAKING OF HIS REGIME'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS THUS FAR. FURTHER-  
MORE, MOST DO NOT BELIEVE HIS SOOTHING WORDS REGARDING DOMESTIC  
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SECURITY, AND MANY ARE CONVINCED THAT TROUBLE MAY BE BREWING JUST BELOW THE OUTWARDLY PLACID SURFACE.  
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## Message Attributes

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